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SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 7 August 1998 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 6 August 1998, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Aytuğ Plümer, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the fifty-second session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Tuluy TANÇ
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex

Letter dated 6 August 1998 from Mr. Aytuğ Plümer addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the letters dated 24 and 27 July 1998 addressed to you by the Greek Cypriot delegate at the United Nations (A/52/993-S/1998/693, A/52/996-S/1998/696), which contain allegations regarding "violations of the airspace of the Republic".

Similar allegations, which are being put forward constantly to project the false image that the Greek Cypriot administration has sovereignty over the whole of the island, have been refuted in my previous successive communications addressed to you, most recently in my letter dated 28 July 1998 (A/52/999-S/1998/704). I will therefore confine myself to reiterating that flights within the airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus take place within the sphere of competence and jurisdiction of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus authorities and that the Greek Cypriot side has no say in the matter whatsoever.

The endless barrage of unwarranted and unfounded accusations against the Turkish Cypriot side cannot blur or change the fact that the reckless policy of escalation pursued by the Greek Cypriot side is the real threat to peace and stability in the region. At a time when the Greek Cypriot administration is defiantly ignoring all calls to abandon its plans to deploy the sophisticated S-300 missile system in South Cyprus, allocating military bases for the use of the Greek armed forces and preparing to expand its military purchases even further, it is incumbent upon the international community to give a strong message to the Greek Cypriot leadership with a view to reversing this dangerous and destabilizing trend. The Turkish Cypriot side, for its part, calls upon the Greek Cypriot side, once again, to change its hostile posture, stop the militarization campaign and take the necessary steps towards establishing trust and confidence through mutual respect and recognition of sovereign equality.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter could be circulated as a document of the fifty-second session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Aytuğ PLÜMER
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus